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*Oral History Collection*

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Kelly, Van

November 19, 1985

Interviewed by Stan Francis

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Van Kelly is interviewed by Stan Francis on November 19, 1985 about the Rosita, Colorado Indians and mining.

00:00 Indians, Mining, Rosita Brewery, 1941 came from OK to teach school

2:00 Ute Indians came over to race horses, then moved to reservation in Cortez

4:30 this was Fremont County at the time, Wulstein was a mining engineer

7:45 Rosita Brewing Co., Windsor and Snowy Range Hotels, business and church names, population 1500

10:15 1st sheriff, Scholfield

11:15 1877 Rosita county seat

13:45 vigilantes, Graham, ran out of town, Stewart a crook banker who ran off

17:00 Wulstein: educated or a schemer, buried 1912 Rosita, Irwin was instrumental in naming Custer County instead of Humboldt, Putnam was a "drug sticker", a prospector who worked for room and board and liked to drink

20:45 a bear story

22:15 mining slowed, smaller veins, silver price down, 1890s

23:15 Shorty Robertson - whiskey man -good story

25:00 Oscar De Moss wrote his own bible, Hardscrabble Mining Co.

27:45 Spaniards, gold legend

29:00 mine shafts, tunnels, Humboldt 700 ft deep, Senator and Virginia mines, took ore to Pueblo

32:00 mining terms

33:00 about mining claims

34:30 Poverty Gulch

40:00 Putnam went into the tunnels

42:00 perlite

46:00 Van Kelley plays violin to the end

50:00 end